



Ph

00684.003313

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
Masahiko YOKOTA et al.) : Examiner: Unassigned
Application No.: 10/050,852) : Group Art Unit: 2852
Filed: January 18, 2002)
For: IMAGE READING APPARATUS) : October 5, 2004

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the patent documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. A copy of the Japanese documents, along with an English-language abstract therefor are enclosed.

U.S. Patent Nos. 6,285,441; 6,091,516; and 5,734,483, and JP 11-168592 were cited in a European Search report that issued on July 2, 2004, in connection with a counterpart application. The European Search is also listed on the Form PTO-1449, and a copy is enclosed for the Examiner's convenience.

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be initialed and returned indicating that such information has been considered.

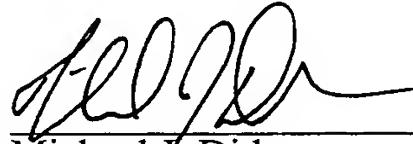
Applicants submit that no fee is due in connection with this paper, inasmuch as a first Office Action on the merits has not yet been mailed. Nevertheless, the

Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee that may be deemed necessary to
Deposit Account No. 06-1205.

Favorable consideration hereof is earnestly solicited.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington D.C.
office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed
to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael J. Didas
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 55,112

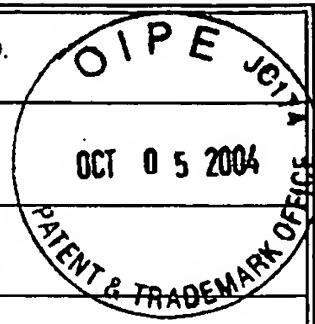
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10/050,851APPLICANT
Masahiko YOKOTA et al.FILING DATE
January 18, 2002GROUP
2852

OCT 05 2004



U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	6,285,441	09/2001	Itoh	358	496	
	6,091,516	07/2000	Chang et al.	358	474	
	5,734,483	03/1998	Itoh	358	496	
	5,610,731	03/1997	Itoh	358	496	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT
	11-68592	06/1999	JAPAN			Abstract
	7-288656	10/1995	JAPAN			Abstract
	7-327109	12/1995	JAPAN			Abstract
	3-364316	01/2003	JAPAN			Abstract

OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

European Search Report dated July 2, 2004, issued in connection with corresponding Application No. EP 02 00 1378

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.